T=Population of the State concerned.
P=Population of British India and all participating States.
No other arrangement or understanding has been arrived at regarding the States' share.

(*b*) Does not arise.

BETELNUT GROWERS—PROTECTION FROM ECONOMIC PERIL

109. Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) have the Government evolved any scheme for the protection of betelnut growers of the State from the economic peril that is overtaking them as a result of the excising betelnuts;

(*b*) if so, will they be pleased to place the scheme on the Council table?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) The Government are studying the whole question. But no scheme is approved as yet.

(*b*) No answer is necessary in view of the above remarks.

TEXT-BOOKS—NON-AVAILABILITY OF

110. Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there has been any complaint either in the Press or otherwise regarding non-availability of text-books for school children even after many days since the re-opening of schools this year;

(*b*) whether the Government have made any arrangement for the supervision of the supply of text-books and if so what is the nature of the same;

(*c*) whether publishers are obliged to make their books available at different places in the State;

(*d*) whether there is any stipulation regarding the commission that whole-sale dealers of books are obliged to allow to retailers?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. The Inspecting Officers have been vested with the power to see whether sufficient number of copies of the prescribed books are stocked at the prescribed centres.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No.

SEVENTY FEET ROAD—ERNAKULAM

111. Mr. P. M. Mayankutty *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) is it true that the idea of opening a 70 feet road through the heart of Ernakulam is dropped;

(*b*) if not, how far the scheme has materialised?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Land acquisition proceedings are in progress.

MOORKANAD—KARLAM ROAD

112. Mr. Puthur Achutha Menon *(Kattur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

whether there were not representations from the people of villages Karlam, Moorkanad and Karuvannur about the urgent necessity of opening a road connecting Moorkanad and Karlam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

Yes. The proposal will be placed before the Road Board.

PETROL CONSUMED BY THE MINISTER'S CAR

113. Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* Will Government be pleased to state the number of miles run and the quantity of petrol consumed by the State car used by the Honourable Minister for Rural Development during each month in 1120?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

This information is not available as all the running expenses of the car are met by the Honourable Minister himself.

CONVERSION OF TAPIOCA INTO STARCH

114. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

are Government aware that restrictions on conversion of tapioca into starch have been removed in Travancore?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes.

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